

# Quarterly News-Letter

OF THE BOOK CLUB OF  
CALIFORNIA

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Volume V

DECEMBER 1937

Number 3

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Published four times a year for its members by The Book Club of California, 110 Sutter St., San Francisco, Cal. Edited by Oscar Lewis.

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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

THIS month marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Club's founding. In commemoration of the event a complete list of the publications from 1912 to date is printed in this issue of the News-Letter, and Albert M. Bender contributes an article in which he reviews Club activities during the twenty-five years he has served as Chairman of the Publication Committee.

A few words might be added about events of the year now ending and plans for 1938. During 1937 the regular Club activities have been maintained. Two publications, *A Leaf From the 1611 King James Bible*, issued in May,

and *An Artist in El Dorado*, distributed this month, have been added to the list of Club titles. It is pleasant to report that every copy of the first named publication was sold within a month after it appeared. The rate at which orders for the second are coming in indicates that the full edition of this will likewise be promptly subscribed. During the year, too, the Contemporary California Short Stories series was distributed. Members have found this, the fourth of the Club's annual series of keepsakes, an uncommonly attractive group of booklets, both from the literary and typographic standpoints. The News-Letter, now in its fifth year of publication, has continued to justify its purpose of keeping members informed of Club plans and activities.

Not the least important accomplishment of 1937 has been the continued growth in membership. In February the Directors, recognizing the need of a larger income to maintain Club activities, authorized an increase of the maximum membership from 500 to 600. Of the 100 vacancies thus created, 62 had been filled by the end of November.

The prospects for the coming year are bright. Two of the 1938 activities are described in this issue: the Mark Twain letter and the new keepsake series. Other details of an active and, it is to be hoped, interesting program will be announced as the year advances.

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¶ A selection of Club publications was included in an exhibition of fine books held at the Berkeley Women's City Club on November 23. The Club titles shown were the same as those exhibited last summer at The Huntington Library. Mrs. Frederick G. Albright, county chairman of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, and a Book Club member, organized the exhibition, which was excellently arranged and very well attended.

## BUFFALO BRIDEGROOM

ON the afternoon of February 6, 1870 a very recent bridegroom sat in the study of his very new house in Buffalo, N. Y. (he had occupied it only three days) and wrote a letter to a very old friend.

The writer was Mark Twain. The man to whom he wrote, and whom he addressed as "My first & oldest & dearest Friend," was William Bowen. Bowen was then resident in Austin, Texas; earlier he had been—like Twain himself—a river pilot on the Mississippi, and earlier still—again like Twain—he had roved the fields and riverbanks about Hannibal, Missouri, as one of the group of boys who were presently to be immortalized in *Tom Sawyer* and *Huck Finn*.

The letter Twain wrote Will Bowen that Sunday afternoon is an extremely interesting document. This is to be expected, for it was written at one of the high points of his singularly eventful career. It was at the end of a crowded week—and the week itself had been the climax of an active year. His romance with "Livy" Langdon had just been happily consummated in marriage, and the brick house on Delaware Avenue (a gift from his father-in-law) was still an enchanting novelty. Twain had just returned from a successful lecture tour, and had acquired a one-third interest in the *Buffalo Express*, and was planning to begin work soon on a new book dealing with his adventures in the West. Moreover, *Innocents Abroad*, published six months earlier, had proved a sensational success and was bringing him in, as he wrote Bowen, "an income like a small lord."

Twain's exuberant delight over all these things found its way into his letter, and he used page after page tell-

ing his old-time playmate of his good fortune, describing his bride's incomparable virtues, boasting of his new home ("house and furniture cost \$40,000 in cash, including stable horse and carriage. . ."), and recalling to his own mind and to Bowen's dozens of their common friends and exploits in the Missouri village a third of a century earlier.

Curiously, this letter, one of the most revealing Twain ever wrote, has never been published. While he lived, Will Bowen never allowed the original out of his possession. Once, however, in 1887, he allowed himself to make a copy, which he sent to a friend in San Francisco, and it is this copy, now owned by Albert W. Gunnison, son of the man for whom it was made, that has been made available for use by the Club.

*Mark Twain's Letter to William Bowen* will accordingly be the Club's next publication, to be issued about March 1, 1938. This first printing of the letter will be accompanied by a foreword by Mark Twain's daughter, Clara Clemens Gabrilowitsch, and an explanatory text by Albert W. Gunnison. The little publication will be designed and printed by The Grabhorn Press. Details as to size of the edition, number of pages, page-size, binding, and price have not yet been determined. An announcement embodying this information will be sent members when the book is ready. It is not too early, however, to state that the little volume is being planned with the idea of providing an appropriate, charming, and inexpensive setting for this important and hitherto unknown letter by America's great humorist.

¶ Again this December, members are being sent a letter pointing out that a Club membership has unusual attractions as a Christmas gift. And again it has been necessary to limit the number of Gift Memberships, due to the small supply of keepsake sets remaining.

## COAST AND VALLEY TOWNS OF EARLY CALIFORNIA

Four years ago the Club began the monthly distribution to members of a group of twelve views of towns and camps of the Gold Rush. The series, *The California Mining Towns*, ended in December 1934. Because the innovation was well received by the members, a second series, *The Letters of Western Authors*—also in twelve monthly parts—was issued the next year. This was followed in 1936 by *The California Literary Pamphlets* (six parts, distributed bi-monthly), and during the year now ending by the current series, *Contemporary California Short Stories*.

Thus, an experiment begun four years ago and with no particular thought of continuing it beyond a single year has become not only a seemingly permanent Club activity but one generally looked on as one of its most worth-while functions. Mindful of the popularity of the first four sets, the Club has chosen for the 1938 series a subject that will, it is believed, prove equally desirable. A summary of this, the fifth series of Club keepsakes, follows:

It will be called *Coast and Valley Towns of Early California*. It will consist of twelve folders, uniform in size with the *Mining Towns* and *Western Authors* series. Each folder (they will be distributed monthly through 1938) will contain a reproduction, in color, of a lithograph of an early California town. On the page facing the reproduction will be a brief description of the town pictured, by an author qualified to write of that particular place. As in the earlier series, each folder

will be designed and printed by a Pacific Coast press noted for the quality of its work.

While this new group will be complete in itself, it will be in a sense supplementary to the 1934 series, and no views of mining towns will be included. The group will picture such valley supply centers as Marysville, Sacramento and Stockton, several settlements on the bay, among them San Francisco and Benicia, earlyday seaports such as Monterey, Santa Barbara and San Diego, together with Los Angeles, San Jose and one or two others. Further details as to the towns selected, the order in which they will appear, names of the printers and of the authors who will write the texts, and information about the color reproductions, will be announced as arrangements are completed.

One set of Coast and Valley Towns of Early California will be distributed to each member of the Club. In addition, provision will be made to supply (exclusively to members) 100 duplicate sets, which will sell for \$5.00 a set. Slipcases uniform with those designed for the earlier series will presently be made up and offered, at cost, to those who wish them. Part One of the new series will be distributed in January.



¶ The list of Club publications to be found in this issue is not intended primarily as a guide to Christmas shoppers. However, your order for any of the titles now in stock will be received with pleasure and promptly filled. Because their sale is restricted to members, the Club publications make unique as well as attractive gifts. On request, publications intended as gifts will be sent direct to the recipient, with the donor's name or card enclosed. In making your selections from the accompanying list, please observe that the titles preceded by an asterisk are out of print; only the un-starred publications remain in stock.

## CLUB PUBLICATIONS: 1912-1937

Following is a list of the publications issued by the Club since its founding in 1912. This, the first complete listing in a number of years, constitutes a survey of the Club's book publishing activities during its first quarter-century, and as such will be of interest to recent members as well as those who have been long on the roll. The list will also be of practical use to members who wish to add to or complete their file of the Club publications. This being a list of books only, numerous Club announcements, notices, lists of publications, etc. have been excluded, as have also the annual keepsake series and a few miscellaneous folders and broadsides. Publications now out of print are preceded by an asterisk. The arrangement is chronological.

\*BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE HISTORY OF CALIFORNIA AND THE PACIFIC WEST by Robert E. Cowan.  $10\frac{1}{2}$  x 8 in. 349 pp. Bound in blue paper boards, linen back. 250 copies printed by Taylor, Nash & Taylor, 1914. \$20.00.

\*THE MAN WITH THE HOE by Edwin Markham. With an introduction by the author and decorations by Ray F. Coyle. 11 x  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches. 14 pp. Bound in blue paper boards, leather back. 300 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1916. \$2.00.

\*THE LUCK OF ROARING CAMP: THE OUTCASTS OF POKER FLAT: TENNESSEE'S PARTNER by Bret Harte. With decorations by Ray F. Coyle.  $7\frac{3}{4}$  x  $5\frac{1}{4}$  in. 74 pp. Bound in blue paper boards, linen back. 260 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1916. \$2.50.

\*THIRTY-FIVE SONNETS by George Sterling. With decorations by Frederic W. Goudy.  $8\frac{3}{4}$  x 6 in. 54 pp. Bound in blue paper boards, linen back. 300 copies printed by Taylor & Taylor, 1917. \$2.50.

THE VISION OF MIRZAH by Joseph Addison. Decorations by Dan Sweeney. 10 x  $7\frac{3}{4}$  in. 13 pp. Bound in blue paper boards, linen back. 300 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1917. \$2.00.

NATIONALISM by Sir Rabindranath Tagore.  $8\frac{1}{4}$  x  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in. 160 pp. Bound in blue paper boards, linen back. 250 copies printed by The Norwood Press, 1917. \$2.00.

\*CALIFORNIA: A Poem by Ina Coolbrith. With an introduction by the author and a portrait by Dan Sweeney.  $10\frac{1}{4}$  x  $7\frac{3}{4}$  in. 11 pp. Bound in green paper boards, linen back. 500 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1918. \$2.00.

ODES AND SONNETS by Clark Ashton Smith. With an introduction by George Sterling and decorations by Florence Lundborg.  $10\frac{1}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$  in. 38 pp. Bound in blue paper boards, linen back. 300 copies printed by Taylor & Taylor, 1918. \$3.00.

THE KASIDAH OF HAJI ABDU EL-YEZDI by Sir Richard F. Burton. With an introduction by Aurelia H. Reinhardt and decorations by Dan Sweeney.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$  in. 60 pp. Bound in marbled boards, vellum back. 500 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1919. \$8.00.

A HORSEMAN IN THE SKY: A WATCHER BY THE DEAD: THE MAN AND THE SNAKE by Ambrose Bierce. With decorations by Ray F. Coyle.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 6$  in. 53 pp. Bound in marbled boards, linen back. 400 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1920. \$3.00.

\*THE VINTAGE FESTIVAL by Sara Bard Field. With decorations by Ray F. Coyle.  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$  in. 23 pp. Bound in paper boards. 500 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1920. \$1.50.

LILITH: A Dramatic Poem by George Sterling.  $8\frac{3}{4} \times 6$  in. 77 pp. Bound in decorated boards, linen back. 350 copies printed by Taylor & Taylor, 1920. \$6.00.

A GRACIOUS VISITATION by Emma Frances Dawson. With an appreciation by Ambrose Bierce. 9 x 6 in. 74 pp. Bound in marbled boards, linen back. 300 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1921. \$4.00.

\*PRAYER: A Poem by Charles K. Field. With a foreword by David Starr Jordan. 8 x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  in. 14 pp. Bound in paper boards. 330 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1921. \$1.50.

\*THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT. 10 x 5 $\frac{3}{4}$  in. 15 pp. Bound in paper boards. 300 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1921. \$5.00.

\*THE CITY OF THE GOLDEN GATE by Samuel Williams. Illustrated by contemporary woodcuts.  $9\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{4}$  in. 44 pp. Bound in marbled boards. 350 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1921. \$3.00.

\*THE LETTERS OF AMBROSE BIERCE. With an introduction by Bertha Clark Pope and a memoir by George Sterling. 9 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  in. 260 pp. Bound in marbled boards, linen back. 415 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1922. \$10.00.

\*THE SONG OF SONGS. A new translation by Morris Jastrow. Introduction by Franz Cumont and decorations by Joseph Sinel. 8 x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  in. 32 pp. Bound in paper boards. 310 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1922. \$4.00.

OSCAR WEIL: LETTERS AND PAPERS. With an introduction by Flora Arnstein, Albert I. Elkus and Stewart W. Young. Decorations by H. Von Schmidt.  $11\frac{3}{4} \times 8$  in. 138 pp. Bound in boards, linen back. 400 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1923. \$10.00.

\*DICKENS IN CAMP by Bret Harte. With a facsimile of the manuscript. 12 x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  in. 12 pp. Bound in decorated boards. 250 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1923. Free to members.

\*THE LETTER OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS. Translated, with an introduction, by Donald B. Clark. Illustrations by Donald McKay. 9 x 6 in. 30 pp. Bound in boards, linen back. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1924. \$5.50.

\*ALDUS PIUS MANUTIUS by Theodore L. DeVinne. With a leaf from the Hypnerotomachia Poliphili, 1499. 12 x 8½ in. 34 pp. Bound in paper boards, linen back. 194 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1924. \$10.00.

\*OLD FRENCH TITLE PAGES by Andrew Lang. 6 x 4 in. 32 pp. Bound in marbled boards, parchment back. 300 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1924. Free to members.

CONTINENT'S END: An Anthology of Contemporary California Poets. With introductions by George Sterling, Genevieve Taggard and James Rorty. 9¾ x 6½ in. 275 pp. Bound in paper boards, goatskin back. 500 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1925. \$15.00.

\*PHILOBIBLON OF RICHARD DE BUR Y. With decorations by Donald McKay. 15¼ x 10 in. 41 pp. Bound in paper boards, linen back. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1925. \$10.00.

\*THE LETTER OF AMERIGO VESPUCCI. With an introduction by Oscar Lewis and decorations by Valenti Angelo. 12¼ x 9 in. 34 pp. Bound in full vellum. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1926. \$14.00.

THE GENTLE CYNIC. A new translation of the Book of Ecclesiastes by Morris Jastrow. Decorations by Valenti Angelo. 7¾ x 5 in. 36 pp. Bound in full vellum. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1927. \$12.00.

\*THE BOOK OF RUTH. With hand-illuminated initials by Valenti Angelo. 4½ x 3 in. 48 pp. Bound in decorated boards, linen back. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1927. \$3.00.

\*THE TESTIMONY OF THE SUNS by George Sterling. With a facsimile of the manuscript with comments by Ambrose Bierce. 14½ x 9½ in. 60 pp. Bound in marbled boards. 300 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1927. \$16.00.

\*AROUND THE HORN IN '49 by Linville T. Hall. With an introduction by Oscar Lewis. 8½ x 5½ in. 142 pp. Bound in marbled boards, linen back. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1928. \$5.00.

\*POEMS by Robinson Jeffers. With an introduction by B. H. Lehman and initials by Valenti Angelo. 9¾ x 7 in. 68 pp. Bound in buckram. 310 copies, signed by the author, printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1928. \$8.00.

AN INVOCATION by Ambrose Bierce. With an introduction by George Sterling. 11¼ x 7¼ in. 30 pp. Bound in marbled silk boards. 300 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1928. \$8.00.

THE FINAL STANZA by Lewis Browne. With a foreword by the author. 8 x 5¾ in. 20 pp. Bound in boards, parchment back. 300 copies, signed by the author, printed by Johnck & Seeger, 1929. \$3.50.

THE PERSISTENCE OF POETRY by Witter Bynner. 10½ x 7¼ in. 40 pp. Bound in buckram, with slipcase. 320 copies, signed by the author, printed by The Windsor Press, 1929. \$6.00.

\*ABRAHAM LINCOLN: A Memorial Address by George Bancroft. With an introduction by John Drinkwater, and decorations by William

Wilke.  $11\frac{1}{2}$  x  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in. 52 pp. Bound in marbled boards. 335 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1929. \$10.00.

\*THE BOOK OF THEL by William Blake. Decorations by Julian A. Links. 5 x  $3\frac{3}{4}$  in. 22 pp. Bound in paper boards, with slipcase. 300 copies printed by The Windsor Press, 1930. \$3.50.

MR. STRAHAN'S DINNER PARTY: A Comedy in One Act by A. Edward Newton. Decorations by William Wilke.  $14\frac{1}{4}$  x  $9\frac{1}{4}$  in. Bound in blue boards, linen back. 335 copies, signed by the author, printed by John Henry Nash, 1930. \$15.00.

\*THE NUEREMBERG CHRONICLE: An Essay by Henry Lewis Bullen. With a leaf from the Latin edition of the Chronicle, 1493. 19 x 13 in. 32 pp. Bound in decorated boards, leather back. 300 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1930. \$15.00.

\*THE ORIGIN OF THE CELEBRATED JUMPING FROG OF CALAVERAS COUNTY by Oscar Lewis. With decorations by Valenti Angelo.  $9\frac{1}{2}$  x  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in. 52 pp. Bound in marbled boards, buckram back. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1931. \$6.00.

A BRIEF AND ACCURATE TREATISE OF TOBACCO by To. Venner, Doctor of Physick.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  x  $9\frac{1}{2}$  in. 32 pp. Bound in decorated boards, leather back, with slipcase. 200 copies printed by The Windsor Press, 1931. \$6.00.

\*THE SANTA FE TRAIL TO CALIFORNIA: The Journal and Drawings of H. M. T. Powell. With a foreword by Douglas S. Watson.  $13\frac{3}{4}$  x  $9\frac{3}{4}$  in. 296 pp. Bound in buckram, leather back. 300 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1931. \$30.00.

SIR WALTER SCOTT: 1832-1932. Containing A Centenary Address by John Buchan and A Forgotten Antiquary by William C. Van Antwerp.  $9\frac{1}{4}$  x 6 in. 40 pp. Bound in boards, leather back. 300 copies printed by Johnck & Seeger, 1932. \$3.00.

\*THE CITY THAT HAS FALLEN by William Marion Reedy.  $7\frac{3}{4}$  x  $4\frac{3}{4}$  in. 20 pp. Bound in decorated boards, cloth back. 350 copies printed by Johnck & Seeger, 1933. \$1.00.

\*A DIARY OF A VISIT TO MOLOKAI IN 1884 by Charles Warren Stoddard. With a portrait and facsimiles.  $7\frac{1}{4}$  x 5 in. 66 pp. Bound in marbled boards, cloth back. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1933. \$2.25.

\*VAZCAINO'S VOYAGE TO CALIFORNIA IN 1602. With decorations by Arvilla Parker. 9 x 6 in. 60 pp. Bound in boards, linen back. 240 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1933. \$3.00.

BIERCE AND THE POE HOAX by Carroll D. Hall. With an introduction by Carey McWilliams.  $10\frac{1}{4}$  x  $7\frac{3}{4}$  in. 36 pp. Bound in buckram. 250 copies printed by The Windsor Press, 1934.

\*THE HEATHEN CHINEE by Bret Harte. With illustrations by Phil Little and a bibliography by Robert E. Cowan.  $14\frac{1}{4}$  x  $11\frac{3}{4}$  in. 40 pp. Bound in boards, linen slipcase. 200 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1934. \$15.00.

\*CALIFORNIA SKETCHES by Prentice Mulford. With an introduction by Franklin Walker.  $9\frac{1}{2}$  x  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in. 130 pp. Bound in decorated boards, linen back. 350 copies printed by John Henry Nash, 1935. \$5.50.

A PRINTER'S GARLAND: Being a Miscellany of Typographic Fancies by Cecil and James Johnson.  $5\frac{3}{4}$  x  $3\frac{3}{4}$  in. 38 pp. Bound in decorated boards, parchment back. 300 copies printed by The Windsor Press, 1935. \$2.75.

\*A SOJOURN AT SAN FRANCISCO BAY IN 1816 by Adelbert von Chamisso. With drawings by Louis Choris. 16 x  $10\frac{1}{4}$  in. 30 pp. Bound in decorated boards, cloth back. 250 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1936. \$5.00.

\*A LEAF FROM THE 1611 KING JAMES BIBLE. With The Noblest Monument of English Prose by John Livingston Lowes, and The Printing of the King James Bible by Louis I. Newman.  $15\frac{3}{4}$  x 11 in. 26 pp. Bound in decorated boards, cloth back. 300 copies printed by The Grabhorn Press, 1937. \$6.00.

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#### NOTES ON AN ANNIVERSARY

by ALBERT M. BENDER, Chairman, Publication Committee

IT has been my good fortune to serve continuously as Chairman of the Publication Committee since the year of the Club's founding. Twenty-five years is a long time to hold even so pleasant a job as this one has proved to be, and perhaps I should try to explain the phenomenon. As I recall, the office was tendered me in the first place because, there being no duties attached to it, it was felt that I was the ideal man for the place. I accepted in the same spirit and for the same reason. Later, I found that I had acted too hastily, for the missing duties soon appeared, a whole swarm of them. By that time, however, it was too late to retire gracefully, and besides I had begun to grow interested. I have been interested ever since.

Glancing over the list of publications in this number of the quarterly is an exciting experience and on the whole a pleasant one. Of course there have been mistakes. Over a period of twenty-five years, reading and collecting habits change, and so do ideas of what a

beautifully made book should be. So it should surprise no one that some of the titles we proudly put forth two decades ago would not be chosen as Club publications today, or that the design and decoration of a few of the early products now seem a bit quaint and archaic. However, these are exceptions. Going through the entire list, from Robert Cowen's *Bibliography of the History of California*, which we issued in October 1914, to Daniel Wadsworth Coit's *An Artist in El Dorado*, now just coming from the press, one is pleased to observe that the general level both as regards contents and craftsmanship is agreeably high.

The Publication Committee claims no particular credit for this. The interest and literary quality of the texts are plainly due to the authors who wrote them, and to the specialists who brought their knowledge to bear to edit, comment, or enlighten, often performing their duties *con amore*. Again, the physical excellencies of the books are the result of the skill, experience and taste of the printers in whose shops they were produced, and of the artists who worked under their direction.

From the beginning, the Club has been fortunate in the cooperation it has had from authors, editors and printers, and the major share of whatever credit is due must in justice go to them. I hasten to add, however, that the Publication Committee has had its little difficulties. There were long periods when the Club by no stretch of the imagination could be said to be rolling in wealth, and the matter of financing the publications and of selling them afterwards presented real problems. It was then that the early members gave frequent and substantial evidence of their interest. When a new publication was planned members of the Committee made the

rounds, explained the project, and departed with orders for more copies than the men visited were ever likely to use, and with their checks in full payment. During the first dozen years of the Club's existence practically all its publications were financed in that manner. Without such cooperation it would have been impossible to continue the publishing program or, for that matter, the Club itself. If the history of our little organization is ever written credit to this group of early supporters should not be withheld, for by their help alone was it able to survive the precarious first years.

I have wandered rather far from my subject, which was to have been a consideration of the books published during the Club's first twenty-five years. Fortunately no extended description is necessary. The titles in the accompanying list speak for themselves. I believe every one of our members will agree that they represent an accomplishment of which we may all be proud. The foundation has been laid. Let us aim to do better in the future.

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#### THE DECEMBER BOOK

MEMBERS recently received the announcement of *An Artist in El Dorado*, the Club's December publication. As this is written the work is nearing completion and it is expected that copies will be sent out on schedule, beginning December 15.

A lively demand for the book is anticipated, for it has a number of points of unusual interest. Collectors of Californiana will welcome it for the new group of Gold Rush letters it contains and because it first reproduces Daniel Wadsworth Coit's historically important series

of drawings of early San Francisco. Members who are not primarily interested in the story of San Francisco's beginnings will want to own the book because of the interest of its text, the beauty of the Grabhorn Press typography, and the artistic excellence of the Coit drawings, the collotype reproductions of which are extraordinarily effective.

The Publication Committee is concerned about the sale of this publication, though not for the usual reason. The fear is not that there will be too few orders, but too many. Only 325 copies are being printed, and the Club's membership is now in excess of 560. The question of whether or not the Committee was in error in limiting the edition to 325 copies will soon be answered. Meantime we repeat a suggestion already made: members who want copies should get their orders in without delay.



#### ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP

THE following members have been added to the roll since September 1:

Member		Sponsor
D. Maurice Berry	Eureka, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Mrs. Harry Betz	Glendale, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Anson S. Blake	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Miss Marion Brown	Alameda, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Dr. Fred S. Bruckman	San Francisco, Cal.	David Magee
Mrs. Jerome D. Burnum	Syracuse, N. Y.	Oscar Lewis
Dr. Edmund Butler	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Miss Edith M. Coulter	Berkeley, Cal.	Miss Anita M. Crellin
Mrs. Ralph K. Davies	Menlo Park, Cal.	Alfred Sutro
Miss Suzanne de Pichon	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Fred W. Dewart	Los Angeles, Cal.	Edwin Grabhorn
Mrs. Harvey V. Eastling	Burlingame, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
A. W. Foster	Cloverville, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Clarence L. Fraser	Dinuba, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Louis E. Goodman	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Mrs. Herbert E. Hall	Piedmont, Cal.	G. M. Greenwood

Mrs. F. A. Hamlin	Bakersfield, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Henry Herzbrun	Beverly Hills, Cal.	Jake Zeitlin
Henry Hofheimer	New York, N. Y.	Albert M. Bender
Miss M. Huntington	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
F. V. Hutchinson	Berkeley, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Mrs. Willard E. Kay	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
M. Kestenbaum	Chicago, Ill.	Albert M. Bender
Lewis A. Lapham	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
F. L. Lipman	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Mrs. Robert L. Lipman	Berkeley, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Dr. Herbert C. Moffitt	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Monterey Public Library	Monterey, Cal.	Miss Caroline Wenzel
Edwin Letts Oliver	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Armando Pedrini	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Mrs. Edward M. Rolkin	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
William M. Roth	New Haven, Conn.	Mrs. A. B. Swinerton
Clive M. Saiz	Daly City, Cal.	F. W. Heron
Albert Sperisen	San Francisco, Cal.	Harold N. Seeger
Ralph M. Stall	Richmond, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
C. A. Stonehill	London, England	F. W. Heron
Mrs. Florence W. Switton	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Neal Van Sooy	Azusa, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Dr. William Van Wyck	San Francisco, Cal.	Garfield D. Merner
John T. Wallace	San Francisco, Cal.	John D. McKee
Mrs. James T. Watkins	San Francisco, Cal.	Oscar Lewis
Carl Weeks	Des Moines, Iowa	Oscar Lewis

The 42 names listed above bring the roll to 562, substantially higher than at any previous period of the Club's history. Thus, nearly two-thirds of the 100 vacancies created some months ago have already been filled. If the present rate of increase is maintained not many weeks will pass before the goal of a full membership will be reached.



¶ When Part Five of the Short Stories series was recently sent members a postal was inclosed inviting those who had not already done so to order slipcases for the series. The response was so large that the supply on hand was speedily exhausted. A considerable number of orders are on file awaiting the completion of a new supply. These—and future—orders will be filled as promptly as circumstances permit.

CONTEMPORARY CALIFORNIA  
SHORT STORIES

THE Club's fourth annual series of keepsakes will end this month with the distribution to members of Part Six of the Short Stories series.

The final story of the group will be *His Wife Could Eat No Lean*, a study of contrasting temperaments, deftly told by Ruth Comfort Mitchell. California readers will find an added interest in the story because of its author's skillful use of an unusual setting, for the tale is laid in the San Joaquin Valley and it conveys with remarkable clarity the feeling and flavor of life in a California farming community of today. Like the other authors represented in the series, Miss Mitchell has written a foreword for this printing of her story.

The design and printing is being done by The Plantin Press, Los Angeles, the work of which is already favorably known to Club members.

An announcement and description of the 1938 keepsake series will be found elsewhere in this number of the News-Letter.

MEMORIAL

SINCE December 1, 1935, the following members have died:

<i>Member</i>	<i>Elected</i>
Mrs. Marcella S. Moore . . . . .	1936
Walter Rothchild . . . . .	1925
Will Sparks . . . . .	1913
Irvin J. Wiel . . . . .	1936